

REMARKS

Claims 1-43 are now pending in the application. Claims 16-21 are allowed, while claims 1-7, 10-15, 22-26, and 29-43 are rejected. Claims 8, 9, 27, and 28 are objected to as depending from a disallowed claim, but contain allowable subject matter. Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1-43 remain pending.

Support for the amendment to claim 1 is found in the specification, for example in original claims 8 and 9. Similarly, support for the amendment to claim 22 is found, for example, in claims 28 and 29. Support for the amendment to claim 34 is also found in the specification as originally filed. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-7, 10-15, 22-26, 29-36, and 38-43 are rejected in the Office Action as anticipated by Rehfuss, et al., EP 0553702. Claims 8 - 9 and 27-28 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection as applied to the amended claims and requests reconsideration.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 22 and 34, to recite the limitations in allowable claims 8-9 and 27-28. Specifically, Applicant has added to the limitation that the plurality of groups in component B is selected from the group consisting of oxazoline and oxazine. On the basis of the amendments, Applicants respectfully request the rejection under § 102(b) over the Rehfuss, et al. reference be withdrawn.

Claims 1-7, 12-15, 22-26, 29, 31-37, and 39-43 stand rejected as being anticipated by the Tramontano et al. reference, EP 512710. Applicant has amended claims 1, 22, and 34 to

incorporate allowable subject matter as discussed above. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection over the Tramontano reference as applied to the amended claims, and respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons discussed above, Applicant believes that claims 1-43 are in an allowable condition and respectfully requests an early notice of such allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if that would be helpful to resolving any issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/29/2003

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